

Listing of claims:

1. *(Currently amended)* A vehicle monitoring and reservation system usable in a vehicle sharing system, comprising:
 - a) a terminal for accepting a request to use a vehicle;
 - b) registering means for registering said users;
 - c) a parking designated area for a plurality of users to obtain vehicles from and return vehicles thereto;
 - d) vehicle monitoring means to monitor the use of a vehicle, the vehicle monitoring means comprising geo-fencing means surrounding the parking designated area, whereby vehicles contained within, entering, or exiting the parking designated area can be tracked and accounted for, ~~wherein the vehicle monitoring means includes no hardware at the parking area; wherein the designated area includes no hardware for monitoring the vehicle;~~
 - e) a central computer with computing means responsive to said monitoring means and the user's intended use and past vehicle usage for determining when a vehicle will be available for use at said parking designated area and memory means for storing registration information of said users from said registering means;
 - f) communication means responsive to said computing means for communicating the availability of said vehicles; and
 - g) an information device responsive to said communications means wherein the user is informed of the availability of said vehicles at said parking designated area and reserves an available vehicle.

2. *(Previously presented)* The vehicle monitoring and reservation system of claim 1 wherein the vehicle monitoring means comprises a GPS receiver means for receiving radio signals from a GPS which indicates the current ground position of a GPS receiver, whereby the current ground position is also the vehicle's current location when the GPS receiver is coupled thereto.

3. *(Previously presented)* The vehicle monitoring and reservation system of claim 1, wherein the terminal for accepting a user request is selected from a group comprising a web site, pager, telephone, or PDA.

4. *(Previously presented)* The vehicle monitoring and reservation system of claim 1, wherein the information device is selected from a group comprising a web site, pager, telephone, or PDA.

5. *(Previously presented)* The vehicle monitoring and reservation system of claim 2, wherein said communication means communicates the current ground position continuously.

6. *(Canceled)* ~~The vehicle monitoring and reservation system of claim 1, wherein the vehicle monitoring means comprises geo-fencing means surrounding said parking area, whereby vehicles contained within, entering, or exiting the parking area can be tracked and accounted for.~~

7. *(Currently amended)* The vehicle monitoring and reservation system of claim 1 wherein the vehicle monitoring means comprises geo-fencing means of various radii surrounding said parking designated area, whereby vehicles contained within, entering, or exiting the parking designated area can be tracked and accounted for.

8. *(Previously presented)* The vehicle monitoring and reservation system of claim 3, wherein the terminal further comprises means for receiving user-input information.

9. *(Currently amended)* The vehicle monitoring and reservation system of claim 8 wherein the vehicle monitoring means further comprises user-input information submitted by the user at said terminal.

10. *(Previously presented)* The vehicle monitoring and reservation system of claim 9, wherein the user-input information comprises information regarding the user's past vehicle usage.

11. *(Previously presented)* The vehicle monitoring and reservation system of claim 9, wherein user-input information comprises information regarding the user's intended destination.

12. *(Previously presented)* The vehicle monitoring and reservation system of claim 9, wherein user-input information comprises information regarding the user's intended duration of use.

13. *(Previously presented)* The vehicle monitoring and reservation system of claim 9, wherein user-input information comprises information regarding the user's intended destination and duration of use.

14. *(Previously presented)* The vehicle monitoring and reservation system of claim 10, wherein the user-input information is recalled by the central computer's memory means when the registered user's personal identification number or password is inputted in said terminal.

15. *(Previously presented)* The vehicle monitoring and reservation system of claim 9, wherein the terminal for receiving user-input information is a vehicle mounted device.

16. *(Previously presented)* The vehicle monitoring and reservation system of claim 15, wherein the user-input information is contained on a device selected from a group comprising a key fob, personal identification number, password, or identification card.

17. *(Previously presented)* The vehicle monitoring and reservation system of claim 16, wherein the user-input information comprises information regarding the user's past vehicle usage.

18. *(Currently amended)* A vehicle monitoring and reservation system usable in a vehicle sharing system, comprising:

- a) a terminal for accepting a request to use a vehicle and user input information;

- b) registering means for registering said users;
- c) a parking designated area for a plurality of users to obtain vehicles from and return vehicles thereto;
- d) vehicle monitoring means to monitor the use of a vehicle, the vehicle monitoring means comprising geo-fencing means surrounding the parking designated area, whereby vehicles contained within, entering, or exiting the parking designated area can be tracked and accounted for, ~~wherein the vehicle monitoring means includes no hardware at the parking area; wherein the designated area includes no hardware for monitoring the vehicle;~~
- e) a central computer with computing means responsive to said monitoring means and the user's intended use and past vehicle usage for determining when a vehicle will be available for use at said parking designated area and memory means for storing registration information of said users from said registering means;
- f) communication means responsive to said computing means for communicating the availability of said vehicles; and
- g) an information device responsive to said communications means wherein the user is informed of the availability of said vehicles at said parking designated area and reserves an available vehicle.

19. *(Currently amended)* The vehicle monitoring and reservation system of claim 18, wherein the vehicle monitoring means further comprises:

- a) user-input information.

20. *(Currently amended)* The vehicle monitoring and reservation system of claim 18, wherein the vehicle monitoring means comprises:

- a) geo-fencing means of various radii surrounding said parking designated area, whereby vehicles contained within, entering, or exiting the parking designated area can be tracked and accounted for; and
- b) user-input information.

21. *(Canceled)* ~~The vehicle monitoring and reservation system of claim 18, wherein the vehicle monitoring means comprises:~~

- a) ~~geo fencing means surrounding said parking area, whereby vehicles contained within, entering, or exiting the parking area can be tracked and accounted for;~~
- b) ~~geo fencing means of various radii surrounding said parking area, whereby vehicles contained within, entering, or exiting the parking area can be tracked and accounted for; and~~
- c) ~~user input information.~~

22. *(Currently amended)* A method for vehicle sharing, comprising:
providing a ~~parking~~ designated area for a user to obtain a vehicle from and return the vehicle to;

providing a geo-fencing means surrounding the ~~parking~~ designated area, whereby vehicles contained within, entering, or exiting the ~~parking~~ designated area can be tracked and accounted for, ~~wherein the geo-fencing means includes no hardware at the parking area; wherein the designated area includes no hardware for monitoring the vehicle;~~

accepting a request to use a vehicle from the user at a terminal;
receiving user-input information at the terminal;
determining an availability of the vehicle in response to the user's intended use and past vehicle usage; and
communicating the availability of the vehicle to the user through an information device.

23. *(Previously presented)* The method of claim 22, wherein the terminal is a website, pager, telephone, or PDA.

24. *(Previously presented)* The method of claim 22, wherein the user-input information is a key fob, personal identification number, password, or identification card.

25. *(Previously presented)* The method of claim 22, wherein the user-input information includes information regarding the user's intended destination.

26. *(Previously presented)* The method of claim 22, wherein the user-input information includes information regarding the user's intended duration of use.

27. (*Previously presented*) The method of claim 22, wherein the user-input information includes information regarding the user's intended destination and duration of use.

28. (*Previously presented*) The method of claim 22, wherein the information device is a website, pager, telephone, or PDA.